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Invention: METHOD AND NOISE SUPPRESSOR UNIT FOR INSTALLING A COMMON MODE CHOKE FOR NOISE SUPPRESSOR IN A POWER SOURCE MODULE ONTO A CIRCUIT

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SPECIFICATION

METHOD AND NOISE SUPPRESSOR UNIT FOR INSTALLING A COMMON MODE CHOKE FOR NOISE SUPPRESSOR IN A POWER SOURCE MODULE ONTO A CIRCUIT

5 [0001] This application is a Continuation of International Application PCT/FI00/00289 filed 4 April 2000 which designated the U.S. and was published under PCT Article 21(2) in English

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 [0002] The invention relates to a noise suppressor unit for installing and mounting a common mode choke for a noise suppressor in a power source module onto a circuit board of the power source module, the module being arranged onto a circuit board of a plug-in unit, wherein the noise suppressor unit comprises a holder having a bottom surface and onto which holder the common mode choke for the noise suppressor of the power source 15 module is arranged, at least one lifting element for an assembly head or the like of an automatic assembly machine for placing the noise suppressor unit onto the circuit board of the power source module with the automatic assembly machine or the like, and at least one surface mounting element for surface mounting the common mode choke for the noise suppressor onto the circuit 20 board of the power source module

25 [0003] A power source module is a separate current delivery device positioned onto a circuit board of a plug-in unit, the device comprising a circuit board for the power source module. Owing to the structure, which comprises two stacked circuit boards, the power source module only allows the use of especially low components in order for the combination to fit into the card slot reserved for it.

[0004] The operation of a power source causes much electromagnetic noise.

30 [0005] The European Commission EMC directive (89/336/EEC) on electric devices determines which devices must not be disturbed by other devices and which must not disturb other devices.

35 [0006] In the current and future telecommunications community, the fulfilment of the requirements of the directives is of utmost importance, and also constitutes a competitive advantage. If electromagnetic noise cannot be filtered in the power source module, it propagates and may cause malfunction

in the plug-in unit. As a result of this, the operation of the entire system may be disturbed.

5 [0007] For this reason, for preventing the propagation of noise, the interface between the power source and the plug-in unit may comprise a noise filter having, among other things, a common mode choke for a noise suppressor of the power source module. The operation of the noise filter is reciprocal.

[0008] Common mode chokes for noise suppressors in power source modules have previously been disposed on the circuit board of a plug-in unit.

10 [0009] Common mode chokes for noise suppressors in power source modules have previously been manually positioned onto the circuit board of the plug-in unit, and the ends of the choke coils have been soldered into openings on the circuit board of the plug-in unit.

15 [0010] When components are assembled onto a circuit board by modern production methods, the above-described conventional method cannot be used. A common mode choke for a noise suppressor in a power source module has to be able to be assembled automatically and surface mounted.

20 [0011] Such packages are commercially available that allow automated assembly and surface mounting of a common mode choke for a noise suppressor in a power source module, but owing to the two-piece holder+cover structure of the packages, the components become too high, and exceed the maximum height allowed for power source modules. One such coil component is disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 5,307,041.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

25 [0012] The invention relates to a noise suppressor unit for installing a common mode choke for a noise suppressor in a power source module onto a circuit board of the power source module, the module being arranged onto a circuit board of a plug-in unit, for solving the above problems.

30 [0013] The objects of the invention are achieved by a noise suppressor unit which is characterized by what is stated in the independent claims. The preferred embodiments of the noise suppressor unit of the invention are disclosed in the dependent claims.

35 [0014] The solution of the invention allows placing the common mode choke for the noise suppressor of the power source module onto the holder so as to achieve a noise suppressor unit which can be positioned onto

the circuit board of the power source module by an automatic assembly machine and in which the common mode choke for the noise suppressor of the power source module can be surface mounted onto the circuit board of the power source module by means of surface mounting elements.

5 [0015] The solution of the invention allows the common mode choke for the noise suppressor of the power source module to be positioned directly onto the circuit board of the power source module. The advantages gained by the modification are significant. Noise can be filtered where it is created, i.e. in the power source module.

10 [0016] Power source modules can be constructed as completely independent units that the designer of the plug-in unit can connect to the plug-in unit without other external components.

[0017] The solution of the invention has various uses.

15 [0018] As components are assembled onto the circuit board, the holder of the noise suppressor unit acts as a transfer holder for the common mode choke for the noise suppressor of the power source module. The holder of the noise suppressor unit comprises a lifting element from which an automatic assembly machine can transfer the noise suppressor unit for example from a component palette to the circuit board of the power source module. The lifting element comprises preferably a grip surface for the assembly head or the like of the automatic assembly machine, the grip surface being located farther away from the bottom surface of the holder than does the outermost point seen from the bottom surface of the holder of the common mode choke for the noise suppressor of the power source module, from which grip surface the strainer of the assembly machine can transfer the noise suppressor unit from the component palette onto the circuit board of the power source module. If the lifting element has a substantially even lower grip surface and the holder a substantially even bottom surface, and they are substantially parallel, then the bottom surface of the holder of the noise suppressor unit can be easily positioned in parallel with the circuit board of the power source module at the assembly stage of the noise suppressor unit.

20 [0019] The surface mounting elements in the noise suppressor unit enable surface mounting of the common mode choke for the noise suppressor of the power source module.

25 [0020] Furthermore, the temperature of the common mode choke for the noise suppressor of the power source module rises in use, and the

noise suppressor unit of the invention allows it to be efficiently cooled. The use of a large number of surface mounting elements, for example eight, and/or a wide cross-section thereof, allow the common mode choke for the noise suppressor of the power source module to be efficiently cooled since the surface mounting elements efficiently transfer the heat caused by the choke to the cooling layers of the circuit board of the power source module. Efficient cooling enables the use of the noise suppressor unit in high-power applications.

[0021] In the solution of the invention, the height of the components does not present a problem since the power source module can be made low and the surface mounting feet of the surface mounting elements can be embedded in the bottom surface of the holder.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0022] In the following the invention will be described in greater detail in connection with preferred embodiments with reference to the attached drawings, in which

[0023] Figure 1 schematically shows a power source module,

[0024] Figure 2 is a schematic side view of a noise suppressor unit of the invention,

[0025] Figure 3 is a top view of the holder of a noise suppressor

20 unit,

[0026] Figure 4 is a side view of the holder of a noise suppressor unit,

[0027] Figure 5 is a bottom view of the holder of a noise suppressor unit, and

25 [0028] Figure 6 is a side view of the holder of a noise suppressor unit taken along line A-A (Figure 3).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0029] Figure 1 schematically shows a noise suppressor unit 1 of the invention for installing a common mode choke 2 for a noise suppressor in 30 a power source module onto a circuit board 3 of a plug-in unit arranged onto a circuit board 4 of the power source module.

[0030] In addition to the common mode choke 2 for the noise suppressor of the power source module, the noise suppressor unit 1 comprises, among other things, means for coupling the common mode choke 2 for the 35 noise suppressor of the power source module to the circuit board 4 of the

power source module. The operation of such a common mode choke 2 for a noise suppressor in a power source module is known per se, and therefore not described in any greater detail herein.

5 [0031] The noise suppressor unit 1 comprises a holder 5, upon which the common mode choke 2 for the noise suppressor of the power source module is arranged. The holder 5 may be made of plastic, for example.

10 [0032] The holder 5 shown in the figures comprises a bottom surface 6, which, during the assembly, faces the circuit board 4 of the power source module, and a top surface 7 on the opposite side of the bottom surface 6. In the figures, the bottom surface 6 is substantially even. In the figures, the top surface 7 of the holder is also substantially even.

15 [0033] The noise suppressor unit 1 comprises at least one lifting element 8 for the assembly head (not shown) or the like of an automatic assembly machine for placing the noise suppressor unit 1 onto the circuit board 4 of the power source module by the automatic assembly machine or the like (not shown).

20 [0034] The noise suppressor unit 1 comprises at least one surface-mounting element 9 for surface mounting the common mode choke 2 for the noise suppressor of the power source module onto the circuit board 4 of the power source module. The noise suppressor unit 1 shown in the figures comprises eight surface mounting elements 9. The surface mounting elements 9 are made from some electrically conductive, surface mountable material.

25 [0035] At least one surface mounting element 9 is preferably arranged into an opening 10 in the holder 5 to make the surface mounting element 9 extend through the holder 5. The opening 10 is preferably so dimensioned and designed that it supports the surface mounting elements 9 and keeps them fixed in the opening 10.

30 [0036] The holder 5 shown in the figures comprises a ridge 11 which projects from the top surface 7 of the holder 5 and is provided with the openings 10. The ridge 11 serves for example to protect the common mode choke 2 for the noise suppressor of the power source module particularly at the assembly stage of the noise suppressor unit of the invention.

35 [0037] At least one surface mounting element 9 preferably comprises a surface mounting foot 12 for mounting the surface mounting element 9 to the circuit board 4 of the power source module, and a mounting head 13 to which the common mode choke 2 for the noise suppressor of the power

source module is coupled.

5 [0038] Each of the surface mounting elements 9 shown in the figures comprises a surface mounting foot 12 by means of which the surface mounting element 9 can be mounted to the circuit board 4 of the power source module, and a mounting head 13 which extends from the top surface 7 of the holder 5 and to which the common mode choke 2 for the noise suppressor of the power source module is coupled.

10 [0039] There are preferably several surface mounting feet 12, for example eight, and they have preferably a large cross-sectional area so as to achieve efficient cooling of the noise suppressor, since thermal energy can be 15 efficiently transferred along the surface mounting elements 9 to the circuit board 4 of the power source module.

15 [0040] Preferably at least one surface mounting foot 12 is at least partially embedded in the bottom surface 6. Such an arrangement provides a low noise suppressor unit.

20 [0041] The surface mounting feet 12 shown in the figures have a substantially even mounting surface 14, which is substantially parallel to the bottom surface 6. Such an arrangement provides a good contact between the noise suppressor unit 1 and the circuit board 4 of the power source module, and provides a low noise suppressor unit.

25 [0042] The noise suppressor unit 1 of the figures comprises only one lifting element 8. The lifting element 8 preferably projects from the top surface 7 of the holder 5. The lifting element 8 preferably projects substantially from the middle of the top surface 7 of the holder 5.

30 [0043] The lifting element 8 is preferably an elevation which projects from the top surface 7 of the holder 5.

35 [0044] The lifting element 8 preferably comprises a grip surface 15 for the assembly head or the like of the automatic assembly machine, the grip surface 15 being located farther away from the holder 5 than the outermost point of the common mode choke 2 for the noise suppressor of the power source module.

[0045] The grip surface 15 of the lifting element 8 is preferably substantially even, making it easier to grab for example with a strainer (not shown) at the assembly head of an automatic assembly machine.

35 [0046] The bottom surface 6 of the holder 5 and the grip surface 15 of the lifting element 8 are preferably substantially parallel.

[0047] It is obvious to those skilled in the art that as technology advances, the basic idea of the invention may be implemented in a variety of ways. Accordingly, the invention and its embodiments are not restricted to the above-described examples, but may vary with the scope of the claims.